

due attention, in that the later work of Dujardin-Beaumetz and others is not reported. Oleum betulæ volatile, a preparation of the last edition of the Pharmacopœia, is entitled to have a heading of its own, in its proper place amongst the olea, and should not be a sub-head under oleum gaultheriæ. Very rarely does one find typographical errors: page 1310, $3K_2MnO_4$ is found instead of $3K_2MnO_4$; chlorodine appears in the index, instead of chlorodyne; euphorin is euphorin in the index, thus making the usual confusion with euphorin much more likely.

The Appendix covers fifty-two pages and treats of Reagents and Tests; Volumetric Assays; Saturation Equivalents of Acids; Alkali and Acid Percentages of Salts; Table of Elements; Formulas and Molecular Weights of the Principal Chemicals and Reagents; Equivalents of Weights and Measures; Tables of Weights and Measures; of the Relation by Degrees of Baumé's Hydrometer to Specific Gravities, and of Thermometric Equivalents; and an alphabetical List of Official Drugs in the United States and British Pharmacopœias and the preparations containing them.

The General Index (to botany, materia medica, chemistry, and pharmacy) covers seventy-six three-columned pages; the Index of Therapeutics occupies the remainder of the volume—thirty-six pages. The thoroughness of the indexing may be appreciated when it is stated that there are twenty-five thousand references. Minor advantages, as the full list of synonyms, large numbers of chemical formulæ, temperatures given both in Centigrade and Fahrenheit, weights and measures in both metrical and apothecaries' systems, and references to current periodical literature, are best appreciated by the teacher and author, but are as well useful to the practising physician and the pharmacist. The best test of the accuracy and usefulness of a book is to be found in its availability in solving the questions that arise each day. During the past four months this volume has been in constant use, and very rarely has its information been found to be incomplete or inaccurate.

Not only has the editorial work been excellently done, but the mechanical making is of the best; the book is made to be used, and it is likely to be in constant requisition. In comparison with similar works of foreign origin, we feel that it will not suffer, but that it will stand on its merits as a monument to the persistent industry, broad information, scientific investigation, and scholarly attainments of the authors.

R. W. W.

AN AMERICAN TEXT-BOOK OF THE DISEASES OF CHILDREN, BY AMERICAN TEACHERS. Edited by LOUIS STARR, M.D. Pp. 1148. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders, 1894.

THE first chapter of this excellent book—"Clinical Investigation of Disease and Management of Children," by Dr. Louis Starr—is a clean bit of work, which affords good evidence of the editor's ability to illustrate the art of "condensation without omission," which he announces in his preface as an essential condition in the making of a successful text-book.

Among the divisions of this first chapter, "Feeding" may be cited as an example of sound and rational treatment of a subject which has been much overwritten hitherto. It is pleasant to find the opinion regarding

the employment of wet nurses which most of us have been driven to adopt, indorsed by such good authority, and that he considers it preferable in a majority of cases to trust to careful bottle-feeding. All essential facts are clearly stated in his directions for artificial feeding, and it is evident that the author's experience has proved that few hard-and-fast rules can maintain in all cases; that the lacteal secretion of the cow alone (no matter how artfully mixed, diluted, and sterilized) will not nourish every baby; that *nascitur non fit* applies occasionally to infant dyspepsias as well as to poets. The directions given for sleep, baths, clothing, and exercise are admirable.

"Tuberculosis," by Dr. Osler, gives a thorough and well-defined description of the various forms of disease which the infection causes in children; and while the entire paper is most readable, that portion relating to pulmonary tuberculosis from a clinical standpoint is especially good. The fact that a broncho-pneumonia (either in the form of an acute suffocative bronchitis, or the commoner type) is frequently merely a death-mask assumed by tubercle, is very clearly brought out, and the difficulties of diagnosis under these conditions are emphasized, while the rarity (in this country at least) of a pulmonary tuberculosis simulating a frank pneumonia receives due mention. In Dr. Osler's opinion, the estimate that 10 to 15 per cent. of the dairy stock in the Eastern States is tuberculous is probably a low one.

The eruptive diseases are all well done, and none of them overdone—the chapter on "Scarlet Fever," by Dr. Marcus P. Hatfield, being particularly good. How much is gained by the insertion in this or any other medical work of colored plates is a question which each reader must answer for himself. In regard to the quarantine which should be enforced in cases of measles, Dr. Starr, in recommending a period of three weeks, differs from some other authorities, who do not hesitate to allow children who have been isolated to return to the common wards a fortnight from the date of the appearance of the eruption.

"Asiatic Cholera," by Dr. Edward O. Shakespeare, and "Diphtheria," by Dr. Dillon Brown, may be cited as two of many practical and thoroughly modern papers which this book contains. The latter, when taken in connection with the chapters on "Intubation and Tracheotomy," by Dr. Henry R. Wharton, satisfactorily disposes of membranous deposits in the air-passages, whether caused by the Loeffler bacillus or not. It is to be regretted that Dr. J. Madison Taylor, in his excellent chapter on "Exercise and Massage," does not devote a little space to the effects of bicycling on the growing spinal column. It would be interesting to learn whether, in the opinion of one who had made a special investigation of the subject, the growing generation will walk erect in God's image or permanently bow to the influence of this popular sport. A word or two from so good an authority as to the effects upon the figure of the "scorcher" attitudes assumed by most of the lively young people who are rapidly depriving their elders of all rights in public thoroughfares would be most timely.

"Injuries and Diseases of the Newborn," by Dr. Edward P. Davis, is a carefully considered and thoroughly well-written paper which is of interest alike to the pædiatrist and accoucheur.

Dr. Henry D. Chapin has contributed a first-rate article upon "Hereditary Syphilis." It contains a clear and concise description of the disease, but in regard to the treatment which he recommends there

is certainly room for difference of opinion. In speaking of mercurial inunction, Dr. Chapin says: "It is probable, however, that it will be found, as a rule, more satisfactory to employ internal medication." In contrast with this, one or two of the axioms of the highest living authority are worth quoting: "You cannot salivate without teeth;" "Very young infants bear mercury internally only in doses sufficient to allow them to die;" and "*Leur salut est dans les frictions.*"

"Whooping-cough," by Dr. J. P. Crozer Griffith, is a most satisfactory chapter. The only criticism to which it is open is that the belladonna treatment is not described sufficiently in detail. We think it should be impressed clearly upon the mind of the reader that it is only by keeping the patient under careful supervision and giving the drug in doses sufficient to insure the almost constant presence of one or more of its physiological symptoms *for two or three days* that the best results are obtained in obstinate cases. Used in this way it rarely disappoints. Prescribed in insufficient doses it is no more of a specific than a dozen other drugs which are merely placebos to satisfy the minds of the attendants while the cough takes care of itself.

In an able and conservative paper, Dr. J. Lewis Smith offers what appears to be the only rational explanation of the frequent occurrence of rhachitis in children whose surroundings are good, but who are fed exclusively upon proprietary foods. The element which is lacking, as clearly shown by the careful analysis of Prof. Albert R. Leeds (in his admirable contribution, "The Chemistry of Milk and Artificial Foods for Children") is fat. After a brief consideration of the claims made by the advocates of phosphorus, he arrives at the conclusion that while combining this drug with cod-liver oil does no harm, the latter must remain our sheet-anchor so far as internal treatment is concerned.

In Dr. J. M. Da Costa's article on "Rheumatism" we have just what might be expected from the pen of so eminent an authority and wise observer. He notices the intimate relations between the disease in question and certain forms of pleurisy which is so strongly insisted upon by the best French practitioners. Regarding the salicylate treatment, his opinion that it should be discontinued if good results are not speedily obtained will be indorsed by many of us who have persisted only to meet with disappointment, if nothing worse. His recommendation that the full dose be used at the outset, and then diminished, is a point of great practical importance, while his expressed conviction from experience that the salicylates neither prevent nor benefit cardiac complications must furnish food for reflection.

"Diseases of the Mouth," by Dr. Frederick Forchheimer, is well worth reading. That portion which is devoted to dentition deserves special attention, as in addition to an admirably clear description of the process of teething, the author attacks the gum-lancet with much vigor and originality. The conclusions which he arrives at as the net result of an apparently flawless argument are: 1. "Gum-lancing is useless: (a) so far as giving relief to symptoms; (b) so far as facilitating or hastening teething. 2. It is useful only as a bloodletting or as a suggestion, and ought not to be used as such. 3. It is harmful: (a) in producing local trouble; (b) in producing great disturbance on account of hemorrhage; (c) in having established a method which is too general for specific good and too specific for universal use. 4. It is to be used only as a surgical procedure to give relief for surgical accidents." Nothing

which we could say in the way of comment on the above could possibly go straighter to the point than the editor's note which appears at the end of the chapter: "The author certainly presents in a very forcible manner one side of the disputed question of the advisability of gum-lancing. That too many aberrations from health are laid to the score of teething, and that lancing is often performed heedlessly, unnecessarily, and even injuriously, cannot be questioned, yet there are many well-informed physicians and clinicians who use the lance in appropriate cases, because experience—the crucial test—has demonstrated its utility. In this class the editor must be included."

"Diarrhœal Diseases," by Dr. Victor C. Vaughan, deserves more than passing notice. Following his statement that "the gravest symptoms in the most speedily fatal cases are often accompanied by the most superficial lesions, while on the other hand symptoms so mild that no anxiety is awakened may result from marked and extensive pathological changes," and that "it would be as unscientific to attempt a classification of the diarrhœas of infancy founded upon pathological anatomy as it would be to designate acute, subacute, and chronic arsenical poisoning as desquamative, catarrhal, and ulcerative gastro-enteritis," he gives us a classification based upon the etiology of the various forms of diarrhœa which certainly seems a practical working scheme from a clinical standpoint.

Briefly stated it comprises: (1) Acute and chronic intestinal indigestion (from excessive or improper feeding), which do not differ essentially from similar conditions as observed in adults, and are comparatively independent of seasonal influence; (2) acute and subacute "*Milk-infection*," which correspond to cholera infantum and gastro-enteritis in ordinary nomenclature. This is assuredly a most practical and ingenious method of solving a vexatious problem, and good results will follow a general adoption of the term "milk-infection" in the shape of increased vigilance in guarding milk supplies from contamination. The name well defines the gastro-intestinal troubles of very young children in hot weather, and at the same time proclaims the *fons et origo* of infantile mortality during the summer months. We readily credit the writer's statement that he has not been led to adopt a new nomenclature for the sake of introducing a novelty, and congratulate him upon his happy thought.

"Gastric Catarrh and Gastric Ulcer," by Dr. A. D. Blackader, of Montreal; "Dysentery," by Dr. Samuel S. Adams, and "Diseases of the Liver," by Dr. John H. Musser, are thoroughly satisfactory examples of many excellent papers which this work contains, and in which the authors have confined themselves to such facts and theories as are necessary to a good comprehension of the subjects they write of, and avoid any undue emphasis of personal opinions. A vast majority of the contributors have practised self-effacement rather than assume any risk of impairing the value of this admirable text-book, and when we consider the *personnel* of the corps we cannot but admire their modesty and honesty of purpose in restricting themselves to what certainly must have seemed to them dry bones indeed.

The leading facts concerning "Intestinal Parasites" are well stated by Dr. Charles W. Townsend. Oil of male-fern and pelletierine are justly recommended as the most efficient remedies for tapeworm, and very little space is wasted in enumerating the drugs which, in spite of their reputation as tæniacides, almost invariably fail to remove the head.

It is a pleasure to read so good a description of "Mucous Disease" as that written by Dr. William A. Edwards. Notwithstanding the fact that the pathology of the trouble (has it a special pathology?) remains obscure; it is a condition which forces recognition as differing essentially from the membranous enteritis of adults, and no one can afford to ignore it. The treatment is satisfactorily described; we agree with the writer in his expressed belief that intestinal asepsis to a beneficial degree may be obtained by the use of internal remedies, which he recommends.

Dr. William Perry Northrup embodies in his chapter on "Scorbutus" much valuable information concerning a disease which we never before have associated with children of American birth and parentage. Among his cases he cites one of a typical scurvy in a child whose surroundings were all that wealth can provide. The most frequent direct cause in his opinion is prolonged feeding with proprietary foods and canned milk. Here again it will be observed that the question of an insufficient supply of fat comes up just as it does in the causation of rickets. What with 15 per cent. or more of our Eastern cows tuberculous, and proprietary foods lacking in an essential element of nutrition, the American infant is indeed caught between the devil and the deep sea.

"Tubercular Meningitis," by Landon Carter Gray, is a first-rate paper, which in spite of its brevity, gives a comprehensive view of the disease. Its pathology is concisely and admirably described. The same remarks apply equally well to Dr. Frederick Peterson's article on "Convulsions" (a subject which as usually treated is a positive affliction to the conscientious reader), and to Dr. M. Allen Starr's "Chorea." In this last-mentioned disease it is certainly quite possible to give Fowler's solution in much larger doses than fifteen drops *ter in die* without producing any of the usually described physiological symptoms of its effects, particularly if the drug be given in an alkaline diluent—but as a well-marked peripheral neuritis of the lower extremities is very liable to follow such heroic exhibitions, the wisdom of adhering to this as a maximum dose (in accordance with Dr. Starr's recommendation) is obvious.

In a short paper on "Broncho-pneumonia" Dr. William Pepper expresses his belief that its specific cause is probably Fränkel's pneumococcus—an opinion which certainly deserves serious consideration, coming as it does from so high and experienced an authority, although differing from the conclusions arrived at by Claisse from a recent series of careful researches. The clinical aspect of the disease, as usually observed in this country, is admirably described, and it is to be regretted that the brevity of this contribution has compelled the author to omit any description of the very acute and fulminant type which is observed in overcrowded tenements and public institutions where large numbers of infants are housed in a single ward. No mention is made in this chapter of the probably infectious nature of this form of the disease, which is held as proven by Simon, Sevestre, Hutinel, and all the best authorities in Paris, where it has been carefully observed and closely studied during the past three years. "Croupous Pneumonia," by the same author, is clearly written and good in every way.

A short chapter on "Fibroid Phthisis" by Dr. Frederick C. Shattuck, is thoroughly satisfactory, as might naturally be expected. A thoroughly practical contribution on "Pleurisy," by Dr. Henry Koplik adds to the value of that portion of the book devoted to pulmonary diseases.

The symptoms and diagnosis are particularly well done. In advising against the use of iodine and blisters he is assured of the sympathy of all true friends of children.

"Bronchitis," by Dr. Walter S. Christopher, is one of the best of many admirable papers. It is thoroughly modern, and we are glad to observe that in his second paragraph he loses no time in promptly discountenancing any attempt to resurrect the corpse of capillary bronchitis—which is even at this late day occasionally spoken of as an entity—and disposes of its ghost in just three and a half lines. Broncho-adenitis—as he happily terms inflammation of the bronchial glands—he regards as probably the most important cause of recurrent bronchitis, and he indorses the view that any acute bronchitis, no matter how trifling, may lead to their enlargement. The whole article is most readable; but we must take exception to his statement that "expectorants are often of great service in the earlier stages . . . when the secretion is scanty and the râles few and dry, and the cough in consequence frequent and harassing"—not senega, surely, nor yet squills. But we are not disposed to quarrel with Dr. Christopher about the meaning he attaches to the word "expectorant," and would far rather discard the generally accepted definition than miss the reading of so good a piece of work as he has given us.

"Diseases of the Skin," by Dr. William A. Hardaway, is well written and sufficiently thorough. In speaking of the etiology of alopecia areata, he ranges himself on the side of those who regard it as a tropho-neurosis in spite of Besnier's expressed conviction that he has observed instances of contagion in his wards at the St. Louis. It has been impossible to notice many of the contributions which possess as much merit as any we have mentioned.

This is far and away the best text-book of children's diseases ever published in the English language, and is certainly the one which is best adapted to American readers. We congratulate the editor upon the result of his work, and heartily commend it to the attention of every student and practitioner.

F. G. M.

LES UNIVERSITÉS DES ÉTATS-UNIS ET DU CANADA. By DR. O. LAURENT, Agrégé Suppléant à l'Université de Bruxelles. 8vo. pp. 307. Bruxelles: Lamertin, 1894.

THE UNIVERSITIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

So much has been written in America on the medical institutions of the old world, that it is quite refreshing and pleasant to see any study of the medical institutions of the new world, especially when it is made by so distinguished a teacher as the well-known surgeon and professor in the University of Brussels. Prof. Laurent has taken advantage of an extended official journey in America to prepare this admirable volume covering the medical colleges and hospitals in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Ann Arbor, Chicago, New Haven, Boston, St. Louis, San Francisco, and Canada. He has been at great pains not only to copy the statements made in official documents in connection with these schools and hospitals, but has also made observations of his